

## **Shafer is selected as Nevada Department of Energy EPSCoR Project Director**

Dr. David Shafer was recently selected by the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Research Affairs Council to act as the Project Director for the Department of Energy Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DOE EPSCoR). He will also serve as a member of the NSHE Project Director Council. DOE EPSCoR is a federally funded program intended to increase research competitiveness in states that historically have not received significant research and development funding from DOE agencies. Nevada is one of 25 states and 2 territories authorized to participate in the program.

Dr. Shafer is an Associate Research Professor in the Division of Hydrologic Sciences of the Desert Research Institute (DRI) in Las Vegas. He joined DRI in 1998 to serve as the Program Manager for DRI's Technical Research, Engineering, and Development Services Contract for the Department of Energy (DOE). Today he is the director for one of DRI's interdisciplinary science centers, the Frank H. Rogers Center for Environmental Remediation and Monitoring (CERM). His research interests include contaminant transport and restoration in soils and groundwater, long-term stewardship issues associated with contaminated sites and natural resources, risk assessment, and stakeholder involvement in environmental data collection and decision making. He and other colleagues at DRI was recently awarded a contract from the US Air Force Environmental Management program to study hydrologic transport processes of Depleted Uranium (DU) and DU oxides in the Mojave Desert. Dr. Shafer is also part of a team studying the impact of increased fire frequency in rangelands on management of radionuclide contaminated soils for DOE.

Prior to joining DRI, Dr. Shafer worked for DOE, primarily in its Environmental Management Program. He worked at the DOE headquarter offices in Washington, DC and Germantown, Maryland from 1989 to 1997, and at the Hanford Site in Washington State in 1997 and 1998. Dr. Shafer earned his doctorate in Quaternary Sciences and Geosciences at the University of Arizona in 1989.

Nevada DOE EPSCoR programs have successfully been awarded over \$8 million. Nevada received its first award from DOE EPSCoR in 1993. In 1994, a cooperative agreement for research was awarded, and in 2000, a third cooperative agreement was awarded for research in radiography. The currently funded program titled, "Investigations of the Fundamental Surface Reactions Involved in the Sorption and Desorption of Radionuclides" has collaborators from University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies, the Desert Research Institute, and University of Nevada, Reno. The research is to enhance the basic scientific understanding of contaminant behavior on surfaces with significant implications to the management of DOE sites.

For more information regarding the Nevada DOE EPSCoR program, visit [www.nevada.edu/epscor](http://www.nevada.edu/epscor)